

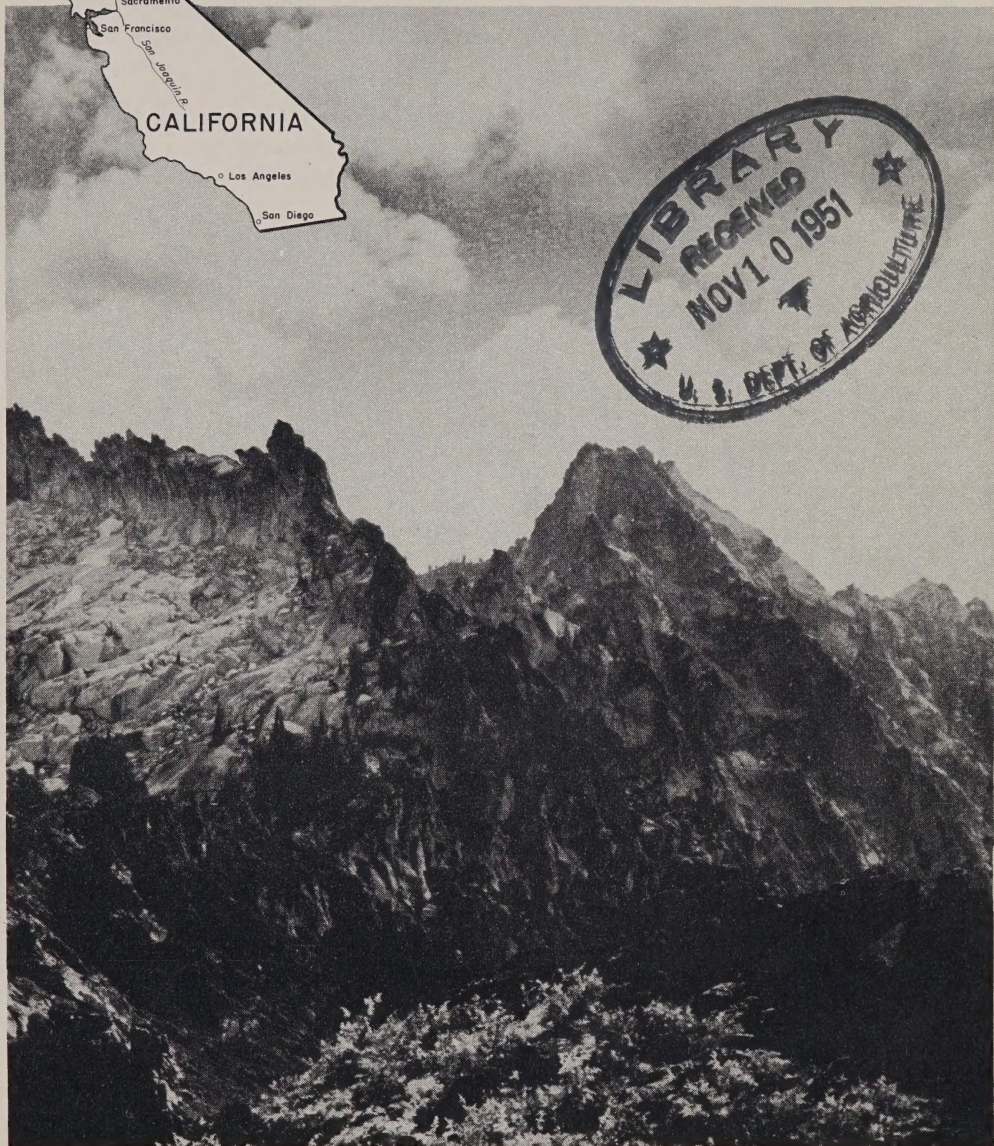
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TRINITY

NATIONAL FOREST



The Great Divide—Trinity Alps

F-370907

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
U.S. FOREST SERVICE

California Region

50
June 1951

THE FOREST AND ITS ADMINISTRATION

Trinity National Forest, established by Presidential proclamation in 1905, is one of 18 national forests in California. Its net area of 1,037,581 acres includes more than half of the highly important watershed for the Trinity River. In addition to water, one of the most valuable of all natural resources, this forest supplies timber that helps to sustain a logging and sawmill industry for the several small towns and settlements in the region; its fertile valleys contribute to successful ranches; its recreational attractions are many and varied; and, although the gold-spangled era of large mining developments has passed, there is still some mining.

The Trinity, like other national forests, is administered by the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. It is managed by a Forest Supervisor, who has his headquarters in Weaverville, and is divided into four ranger districts, each in charge of a Forest Ranger. Ranger headquarters are located at Weaverville, Hayfork, Platina, and Big Bar. You are welcome to visit the Forest Supervisor's office and ranger stations. The officers there will be glad to answer your questions about the forest's resources and points of interest.

HISTORICAL HIGH LIGHTS

Trinity National Forest was once the home and hunting ground of Indians with such colorful tribal names as Hoopa, Chilula, Whilkut, Nongatl, Wailaki, and Chimariko. Descendants of most of these tribes are now in the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation northwest of the forest.

The first white men in Trinity County lived on more or less friendly terms with the Indians until, in 1852, the killing of a man named Anderson was blamed on the Indians. This resulted in the Bridge Gulch massacre of about 100 Indians who were camped at the natural bridge on Hayfork Creek. The only survivors, two children, were reared by white settlers.

Many of the place names in this region were given to them by early adventurers. One explorer, Capt. Bruno Ezeta, discovered and named Trinity Bay on Trinity Sunday in 1775. Maj. Pierson B. Reading, a pioneer who had obtained a large land grant from the Mexican Government in what is now Shasta County, crossed the Coast Range at the head of the middle fork of Cottonwood Creek in 1848. He found a river at a place now called Readings Bar and named it the Trinity because he thought that it flowed directly into Trinity Bay.

Major Reading found gold on the river he had named, and at about the same time a Frenchman named Gross also found gold at Rich Gulch and later at Evans Bar. By 1852 every river bar from Salyer to Carrville was occupied by prospectors, and 5 years later all surface placers that could be worked by the hand rockers of the old forty-niners were exhausted. Dams, reservoirs, and long ditch lines were then built to obtain a head of water to sluice out the gold-bearing gravels that lay under the surface and in the stream bottoms. Trinity County alone has produced more than \$200,000,000 from placer and quartz gold mining since 1850. With the mining development came sawmills, commercial operations, and permanent homes for an increasing population.

From an early period until the eighties, nearly 2,000 Chinese were scattered throughout the mining sections of Trinity County. Evidence of their past residence is to be found in several place names along the Trinity River, and in the old Chinese joss house in Weaverville.

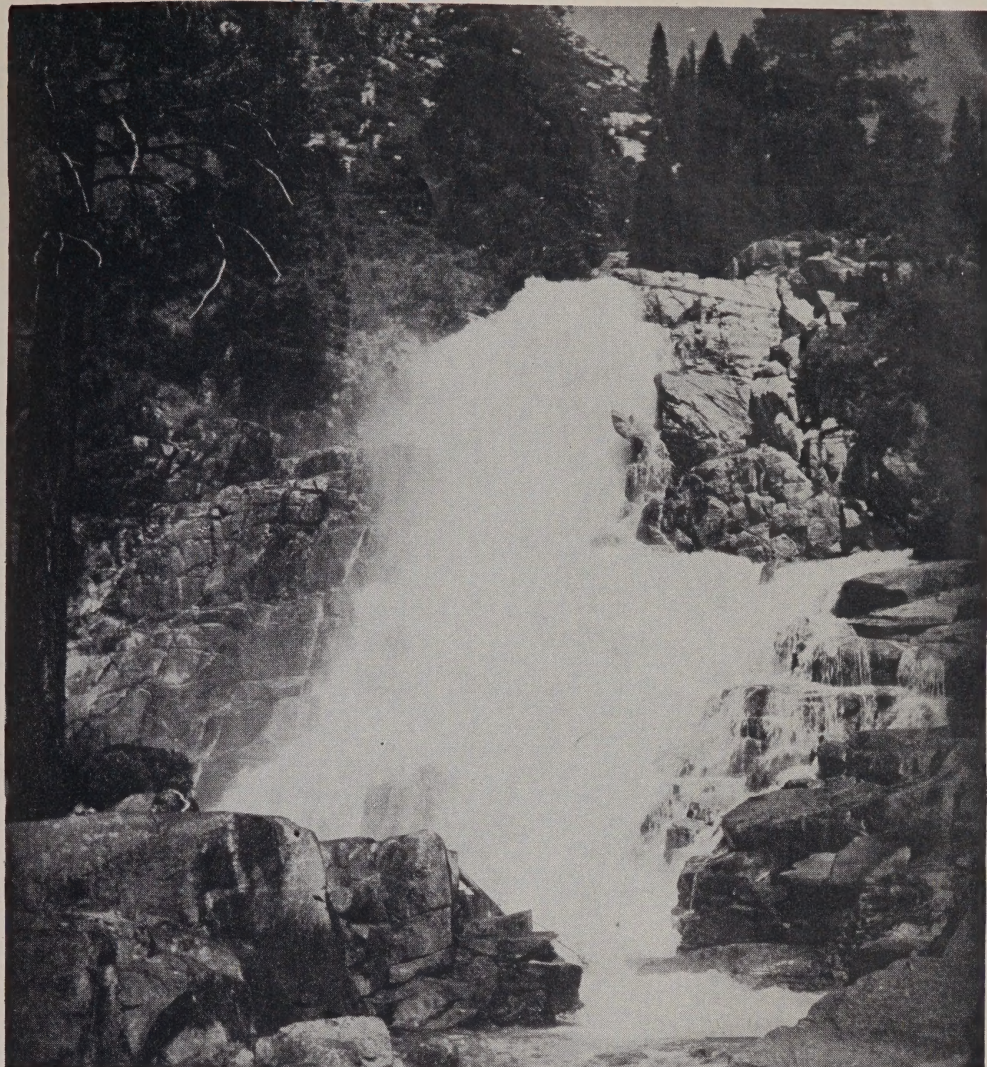
In 1858 the Buckhorn Toll Road was built to connect Weaverville and the Tower House in Shasta County. The Shasta-Yreka Road over Scott Mountain and the Weaverville-Hayfork Road were completed in 1859.

HIGHWAYS TO THE FOREST

There are two highways through the Trinity forest, each connecting Pacific Highway (U S 99) in the Sacramento Valley and Redwood Highway (U S 101) along the coast.

Trinity River Highway (U S 299) extends from Redding to Eureka (156 miles), via Douglas City, Weaverville, Big Bar, Salyer, and Arcata. It follows scenic Trinity River about 50 miles and passes through the famous La Grange mine, largest hydraulic gold mine in the world until operations ceased in 1917. Remains of the large water conduit and old monitors can still be seen near the highway. Continuing west from Weaverville, the highway passes through a country of virgin forests and clear mountain streams. This route is covered daily by bus service.

Red Bluff-Fortuna Highway (State 36) connects Red Bluff in the Sacramento Valley with Fortuna, near Eureka (150 miles). The road crosses the southern part of the forest,



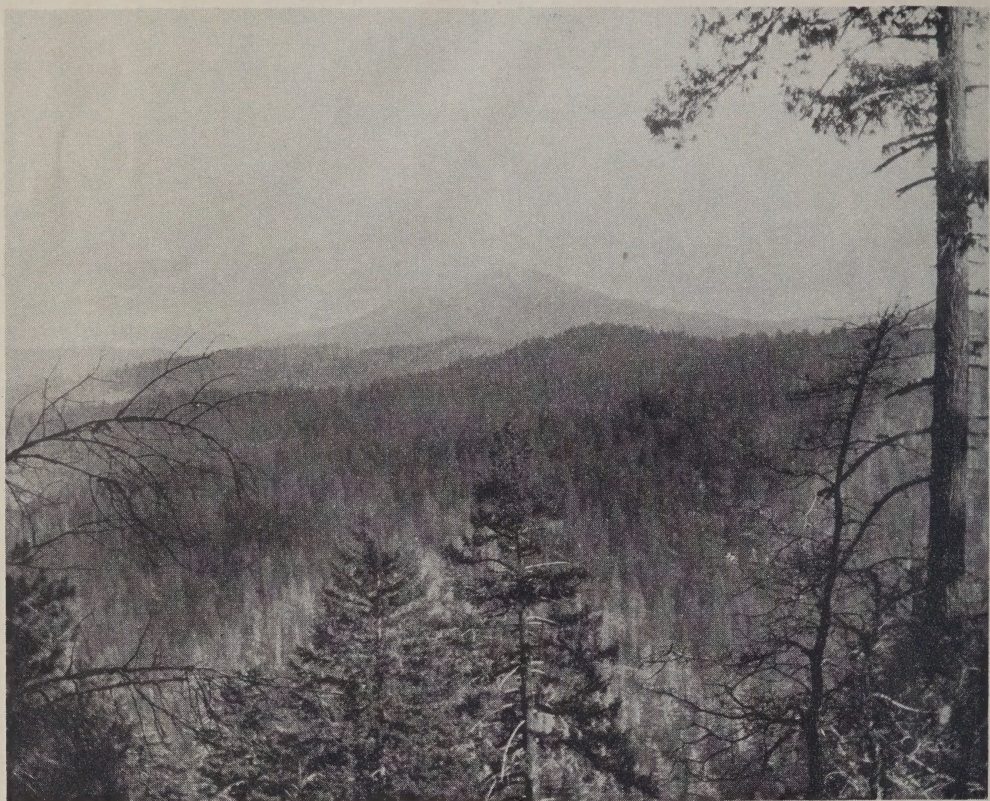
F-441234

Lower Canyon Creek Falls—clean, pure water for the streams below



F-165024

The Chinese joss house at Weaverville is one of the few of its kind left as relics of the past



F-93001

Black Rock Mountain (7,769 feet), which dominates the upper South Fork of the Trinity River



F-454111

Emerald and Sapphire Lakes in Salmon-Trinity Alps Wilderness Area

passing by Platina, Harrison Gulch Ranger Station, Wildwood, Peanut, Forest Glen, Mad River, and Bridgeville. This secondary, unpaved highway traverses many miles of magnificent pine, fir, and redwood forests, and passes sparkling streams and pleasant resorts.

Hayfork Valley may be reached by a paved highway from Douglas City on the Trinity River Highway, and by a good unpaved road from Peanut on the Red Bluff-Fortuna Highway.

The northeastern part of the forest is accessible by good dirt or gravel roads from Weaverville and Lewiston via Minersville to Trinity Center. The road from Trinity Center continues over Scott Mountain to Scott Valley and on to Yreka.

Protection and utilization roads serve much of the forest area, but there are only trails into the back country.

FOREST RESOURCES

The natural resources of the million-acre Trinity National Forest are not locked up or allowed to stand idle. Mankind depends upon its forests for water for homes, irrigated farms, hydroelectric power plants, and water-using industries; timber for homes, for wood-using industries, and a thousand other uses; forage for livestock; and recreation areas where humans weary of town ways can turn to the outdoors for healthful recreation or relaxation. The conservation and wise use of these resources are constant goals of the United States Forest Service. So that one form of use will not conflict with others, the Forest Service coordinates the various uses under what it calls "multiple-use management."

Because the various forest resources are made available for proper use, they bring in revenue that helps to reduce the costs of management and public services. Twenty-five percent of all receipts from timber sales, water-power permits or utility rights-of-way, grazing permits, and special uses, such as summer resorts, is paid to the State for distribution to the counties in which the forest is located, to be used for schools and roads. Another 10 percent of receipts is used for maintenance and improvement of roads and trails within the forest and the remainder goes to the United States Treasury.

The first obligation of the men who administer Trinity National Forest is to protect its resources. Therefore, fire prevention and control take precedence over other activities. During the summer season 10 lookouts and 25 firemen and patrolmen augment the regular organization. The entire organization is linked with the Forest Supervisor's headquarters by telephone and radio. Airplanes and helicopters supplement the fire lookouts. Because of the large area of rough mountainous land and the high flammability of the forest cover during the summer, this force needs the help of the people who live within or adjacent to the forest and of all visitors in preventing fires. It is necessary that forest users observe the rules listed on the back cover of this folder.

Timber

Trinity National Forest has approximately 8 billion board feet of timber, one of the largest bodies of virgin timber in California. This timber varies from predominantly Douglas-fir stands on the west side of the forest to mixed stands of fairly large amounts of ponderosa and sugar pine farther east. It is in an area that until now has been relatively inaccessible. With the improvement of roads and truck transportation, however, the benefits of this vast resource are being realized.

To manage this resource properly, forest officers select and mark mature or slow-growing trees that are to be sold to the highest bidder, leaving a reserve stand of young, healthy, fast-growing trees. Cutting must be done at a rate that will make a perpetual yield for the lumber industry, thereby contributing to the stability of the local economy and local employment. To accomplish this objective, the forest is divided into six working circles, or units of operation. Each unit can support one or more logging operations continuously.

Water

Forests yield many products in addition to timber, and one of them is water. On a forested watershed, rain and melted snow filter through the surface litter and spongy soil of the forest floor, into the underground flow of water that feeds streams, lakes, and reservoirs. A watershed in good condition, protected and properly used, will yield a stabilized flow of clean, usable water for domestic supply, irrigation, water power, mining and other industries, fishing and other forms of recreation. It is generally believed that the only limit in California's growth will be the limit of its supply of water.

For those reasons, watershed management is woven into fire control, timber management, range management, and other work of forest officers on the Trinity.

Drainage from the Trinity National Forest goes almost entirely into the Trinity River. The river rises in the Shasta National Forest, winds in a great horseshoe-shape through the Trinity National Forest, joins with the Klamath River north of the Trinity's boundary, and mingles with the Klamath on the journey into the Pacific Ocean.

Trinity National Forest is sparsely populated at present, and industry in the area is still developing, so that use of the water resource is well below the potentialities. However, the forest supplies water for Weaverville and several smaller communities; irrigation for small farms along the Trinity River; and water power for some mines and summer resorts. Trinity River supports placer, hydraulic, and dredge mining. The river attracts many sports fishermen, thereby contributing to tourist business.

At present most of the Trinity River's water flows uncontrolled to the sea. Ultimate development envisions the construction of a number of reservoirs to utilize the excess water. It would be available for expanding local use, and any surpluses could be transmitted to water-deficient areas outside the watershed.

Forage

Another resource of Trinity National Forest is the grass and other range vegetation, which is forage for livestock. In making this resource available to stock growers, the forest has the objective of maintaining and developing the range so it will produce a sustained yield of forage for a stable, prosperous livestock industry.

In establishing and applying rules for management of the range, the Forest Service invites and gives serious consideration to advice of the stockmen using the range in the forest. For the privilege of using the public-owned range, the stockman pays a nominal fee per animal.

Forage in the Trinity forest provides summer grazing for about 1,200 cattle, under permits held by some 30 stockmen. The permit specifies the area of range allotted to the individual permittee; the number of cattle to be grazed in that allotted area (a number which is carefully estimated to be the grazing capacity of the forage in that area); the period in which cattle should be brought in and taken out (too early in spring, for example, would result in trampling out the young shoots of vegetation); and so on. Most stockmen believe that good grazing conditions benefit all concerned, and they cooperate with forest officers in maintaining and developing the range resource.

Recreation

Recreation as a resource is quite as real as any of the other natural resources Trinity National Forest has to offer. Its lofty snow-capped peaks, big timber, crystal-clear streams, and miles of wilderness trails, will be long remembered by sportsmen and vacationists who visit it. The camping and fishing season is at its best in the Trinity Alps area from early July through September, and incomparable scenery found there provides a wealth of material for camera enthusiasts. Other camp grounds, generally at lower elevations, have a longer season of use.

Fishing on this forest is a major summer and fall sport. The high lakes and streams of the Trinity Alps, well-stocked with rainbow and eastern brook trout, offer keen sport for fishermen in the summer. In the fall months, runs of steelhead trout and salmon up the Trinity River from the Pacific Ocean afford river fishing at its best. Excellent catches of steelhead that weigh from 3 to 8 pounds each and of salmon that weigh from 3 to 25 pounds are not unusual.

The Yolla Bolly Mountain area is popular as a deer-hunting range, although all of the forest offers good hunting. Columbian black-tailed deer are found in considerable numbers throughout the forest and are often seen along the roads and trails. Bear, coyote, lynx, mountain lion, and fox also make their homes here.

Among other attractions on the forest is the Natural Bridge on Hayfork Creek, which was carved through limestone by the action of water. Also of interest are several small, undeveloped limestone caves near Forest Glen, which contain odd geological formations. These caves have not been completely explored.

WILDERNESS AREAS

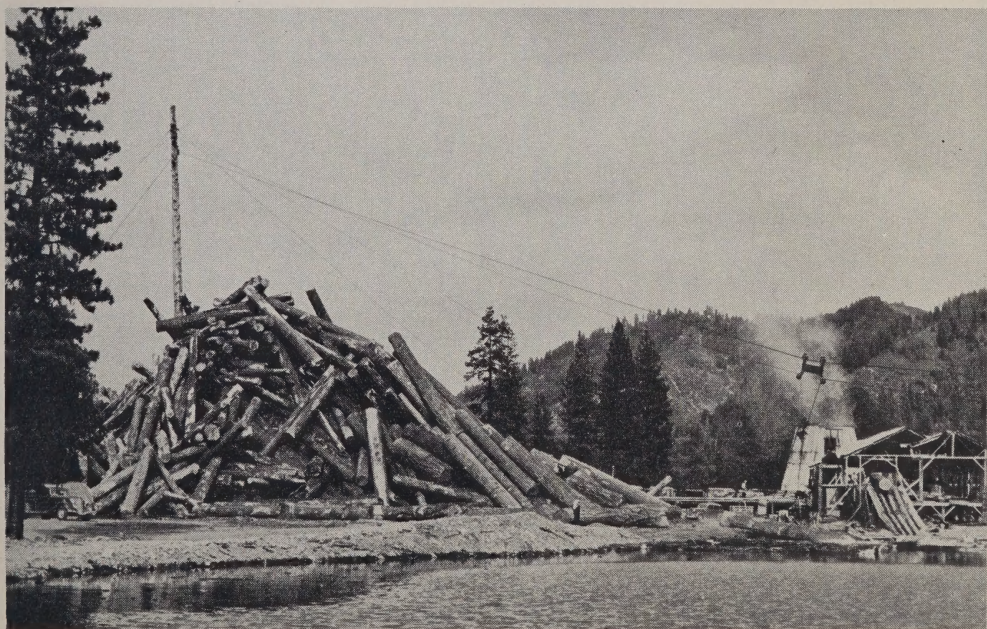
Certain areas of "forest primeval" have been selected for the enjoyment of present and future generations. In accordance with Forest Service policy, roads or other man-made installations not absolutely necessary for the protection of such areas are prohibited.

Salmon-Trinity Alps Wilderness Area is comprised of approximately 286,000 acres located in the Trinity, Klamath, and Shasta National Forests; 136,000 acres of it is in the northern part of the Trinity. Here is a real wilderness that can be reached only by saddle horse, and a trip into the heart of it will try the endurance of an experienced mountaineer.



F-151711

These trees are part of the economic security of nearby communities



F-441635

These logs mean timber for homes and other buildings, pay checks for the men who handle them, and revenue for roads and schools in the county



F-442149

This mule train carries cans of fingerlings that will be used to restock some high mountain stream on the forest



F-335102

Alpine Lake—a jumping off spot for the wilderness

Thompson Peak, with an elevation of 8,936 feet, is the beacon of the Salmon-Trinity Alps and one of the topographic wonders of northern California. In the afternoon sun its bare summit resembles marble, so light colored is the granite. This peak overlooks a jumble of saw-toothed mountains, glacier-cut canyons, and rushing streams fed by high snowbanks. Canyon Creek lakes, Morris meadows, and Stuart Fork lakes are convenient base camp locations for trips into the wilderness.

Middle Eel-Yolla Bolly Wilderness Area covers 143,426 acres of the Trinity and Mendocino National Forests. The Yolla Bolly portion, 66,000 acres, is in the Trinity National Forest. This area has numerous high peaks, rugged mountain terrain, and an abundance of game. It is easily accessible to the hiker from either of two roads, one entering the area about one-half mile on the east side, and the other within 3 miles of the north boundary. Trails radiate throughout the area from these points. Elevations range from 2,200 feet to 8,604 feet above sea level. Two-thirds of the area is between 4,000 and 6,000 feet in elevation. There are North Yolla Bolly and Black Rock Peaks, both more than 8,000 feet high, and Tomhead on the eastern boundary, 6,775 feet.

PUBLIC CAMP GROUNDS

For the comfort and convenience of visitors, the Forest Service has developed a number of public camp grounds. All have water, tables, stoves, and toilets and some have space for trailers. The camp grounds are listed in their sequence along the two main highways:

Along the Trinity River Highway (U S 299)

MINERSVILLE	One mile west of Minersville at the Minersville Fire Station. Good road. Eight stoves and tables. Water piped. Trailer space. Swimming in Stuarts Fork. Elevation: 2,100 feet.
KINNEY	Ten miles north of Weaverville. One stove and table. Water from spring. Road not suitable for trailers. Elevation: 3,500 feet.
RUSH CREEK	Seven miles north of Weaverville. Good road. Six stoves and tables. Water from creek. Trailer space. Elevation: 2,200 feet.
EAST WEAVER	Three miles north of Weaverville. Good road. Five stoves, 6 tables. No trailer space. Water piped. Elevation: 2,100 feet.
RIPSTEIN	On Canyon Creek 11 miles north of Junction City. Fair mountain road. Five tables and stoves. Water supply from creek. Trailer space. Elevation: 3,000 feet.
HOBO GULCH	On North Fork Trinity River 18 miles north of Helena at end of fair mountain road. Five stoves and tables. Spring and river water. Trailer space. Elevation: 3,000 feet.
BIG FLAT	Three miles east of Big Bar. Six stoves and tables. Space for a few trailers. Swimming in river. Elevation: 1,300 feet.
BIG BAR	Across the Trinity River from the Big Bar Ranger Station. One stove, 2 tables. No trailer space. Elevation: 1,250 feet.
HAYDEN FLAT	On the Trinity River Highway 1 mile west of Del Loma. Easily reached. Eight stoves and tables. A large area suitable for camp trailers. Swimming in river. Elevation: 1,200 feet.
PANTHER CREEK	Fourteen miles up Denny road, from Trinity River Highway 5 miles east of Salyer. Three stoves, 2 tables. No trailer space. Supplies at Denny. Elevation: 1,200 feet.
DENNY	Eighteen miles up the Denny road, from the Trinity River Highway 5 miles east of Salyer. Road requires careful driving. Four stoves, 7 tables. Space for several trailers. Supplies and post office at Denny. Elevation: 1,600 feet.

Along the Red Bluff-Fortuna Highway (State 36)

BEEGUM GORGE	On Beegum Creek 8 miles southwest of Beegum. Fair mountain road. Supplies at Platina. Four stoves and tables. Creek water. No trailer space. Elevation: 2,200 feet.
HARRISON GULCH	Four miles west of Platina at the Harrison Gulch Ranger Station. Supplies at Platina. Five stoves, 4 tables. Trailer space. Elevation: 2,700 feet.
NORTH FORK OF BEEGUM CREEK	Five miles south of highway, on the White Rock road. Four stoves and tables. Creek water. No trailer space. Elevation: 3,000 feet.

RAGAN MEADOWS	Nine miles south of highway on White Rock road. One table and stove. Water from spring. Road steep for trailers. Elevation: 4,300 feet.
WHITE ROCK	Twenty miles south of highway on White Rock road. Water from stream. One table and stove. Road steep for trailers. Elevation: 4,800 feet.
DEERLICK SPRINGS	Sixteen miles north of Harrison Gulch. Last 2 miles of road difficult for trailers. Forty-two stoves and tables. Water piped. Store and lunch counter. Elevation: 3,000 feet.
NATURAL BRIDGE	Eight miles north of Wildwood. Can be reached from U S 299 via the Douglas City-Hayfork road. A point of historical and geological interest. Two tables. Creek water. No trailer space. Elevation: 3,000 feet.
SALT CREEK	On fair road between Wildwood and Peanut. Four stoves and tables. Creek water. No trailers. Elevation: 2,800 feet.
BIG SLIDE	West of Hyampom and 31 miles west of Hayfork. Good mountain road. Eight stoves and tables. No trailers. Swimming in river. Elevation: 1,400 feet.
COLD SPRINGS	Four miles west of Peanut. Nearest supplies at Hayfork, 11 miles north. Four stoves and tables. Trailer space. Elevation: 3,200 feet.
FOREST GLEN	On highway 14 miles southwest of Peanut. Good road. Store, cafe, and post office. Twelve stoves, 14 tables. No trailers. Good swimming. Elevation: 2,400 feet.
PICKETT PEAK	South of highway over a fair road 6 miles west of Forest Glen. Four stoves and tables. Water from spring. No trailer space. Elevation: 5,800 feet.
BLAKE	North about 20 miles over a fair mountain road from the main highway 7 miles west of Forest Glen. Four stoves and tables. Water from spring. Not suitable for trailers (road narrow and winding). Elevation: 6,000 feet.

SUMMER HOME SITES

At Forest Glen, on the Red Bluff forest highway, the Forest Service has laid out a summer home tract. When there are vacancies, an applicant may obtain a permit for "special use" of a lot on which he can build a summer home. The charge for a special-use permit is \$25 or more per year. Information about sites can be obtained from the District Forest Ranger at Hayfork or the Forest Supervisor at Weaverville.

LEAVE WORD

If you start out alone on a trip into the mountains, leave word with someone about where you plan to go and the route you will take.

WHAT TO DO WHEN LOST

1. Keep a clear head if lost in the forest or mountains.
2. Stop, sit down, and try to figure out where you are. Use your head, not your legs.
3. If caught by night, fog, or storm, stop at once and make camp in a sheltered place. Gather plenty of dry fuel. Build a fire in a safe place.
4. Don't wander about. Travel only downhill. Follow stream beds or ridges.
5. If injured, choose a clear spot on a promontory if possible and make a signal smoke.
6. Remember the figure 3. The signal of distress in the outdoors is 3 signals which can be heard or seen—3 shots, 3 whistles, or 3 flashes from a flashlight, etc. Searchers will answer with 2 signals.
7. Don't yell, don't run, don't worry—and above all, DON'T QUIT.



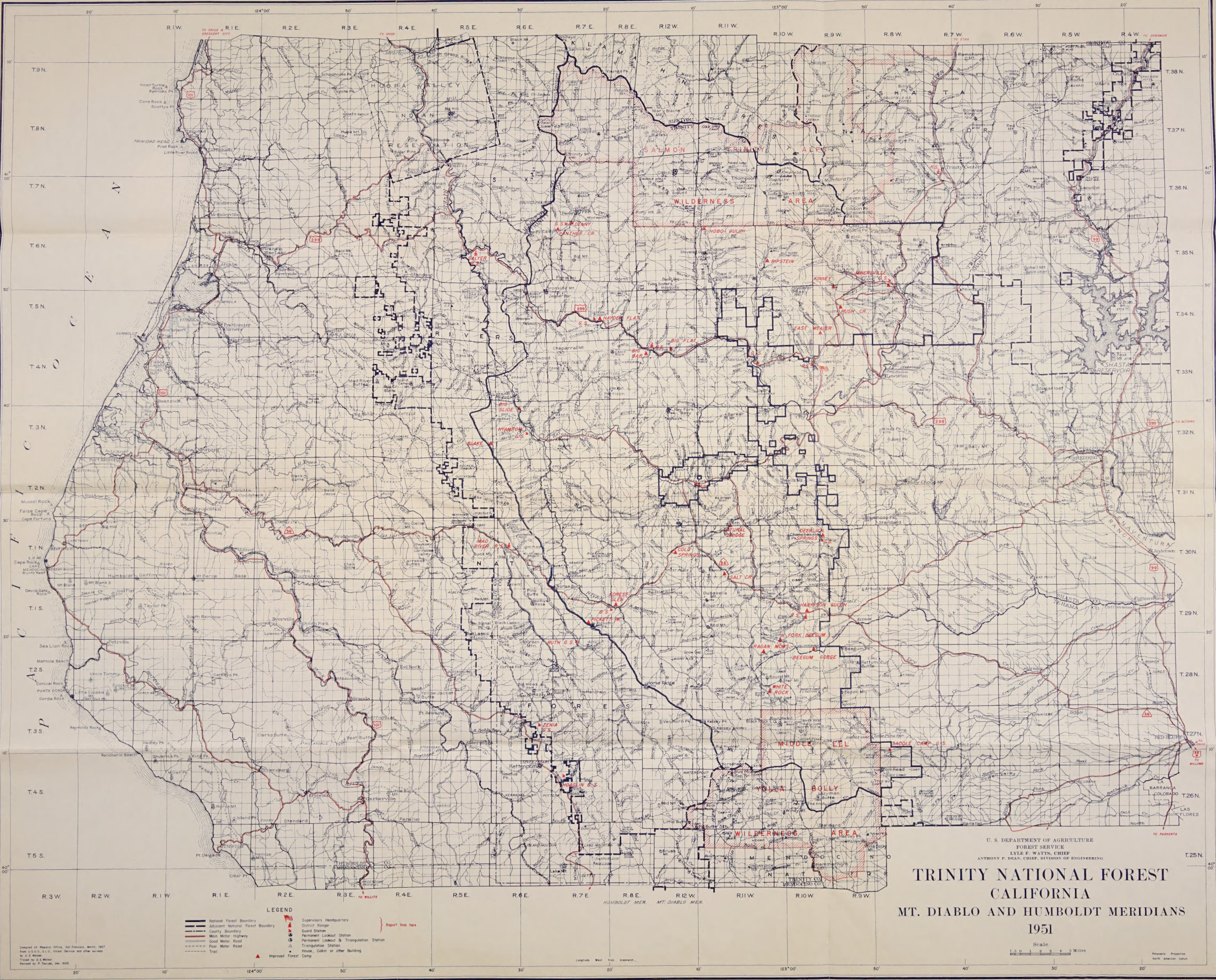
Rain and snow in the mountains provide the water for streams

F-185474



The Trinity River, for which the forest was named, flows unhindered to the Pacific Ocean. It is a potential source of power and irrigation, locally and elsewhere in California

F-165026



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
LYLE F. WATTS, CHIEF
ANTHONY P. DEAN, CHIEF, DIVISION OF ENGINEERING

TRINITY NATIONAL FOREST
CALIFORNIA
MT. DIABLO AND HUMBOLDT MERIDIANS
1951

Scale
1:50,000
0 1 2 3 4 Miles

Compiled at Regional Office, San Francisco, March, 1951
from U.S.G.S. 1:50,000, Forest Service and other sources
by R. L. Moore
Tracked by S. J. Walker
Revised by R. L. Moore, Jan. 1953

RULES FOR FOREST USERS

Users of the Trinity National Forest are required to observe the following rules:

1. A campfire permit must be obtained before building any fire, including fires in stoves burning wood, kerosene, or gasoline. The nearest forest officer will issue a permit to you without charge. Shovel and ax are not required by law; however, they are essential tools for camping and are very useful if a fire is discovered.
2. During the fire season, smoking within the national forest is subject to special restrictions based on county, State, and Federal laws. Look for the signs posted along the roads and trails, or ask any forest officer for information. Smokers must extinguish their matches, cigars, cigarettes, and pipe heels in a safe place. It is against State law to throw burning material from a moving vehicle.
3. In periods of high fire hazard, camping and camp or picnic fires may be restricted to posted camp grounds, and part or all of the national forest may be closed to public use and travel. Watch for "Closed Area" signs.
4. Clear an area 10 feet in diameter, and down to mineral soil, before starting a fire. Build a small fire.
5. Never leave a fire until you have put it out. Use plenty of water. Stir the ashes with a stick, while applying the water, until every ember is dead.
6. Keep your camp clean. Where there are no garbage pits or incinerators, burn or bury all garbage and refuse.
7. Do not pollute the springs, streams, or lakes by insanitary acts.
8. Observe the State fish and game laws.
9. Drive carefully on mountain roads.



F-426692

A lighted cigarette carelessly tossed away could be the start of a major conflagration. Know your fire rules—help prevent fires